

**INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

COMMITTEE: Public Awareness
DATE: January 24, 2002
RECORDER: Sue Winar

PRESENT: Zelna Banks, Stephanie Pringle Fox, Hedy Hansen, Nenita
Herrera-Sioco, Shirley Stihler, Kathleen Colvin,
ABSENT: Gwendolyn Aldridge, Ellen Broms, Elaine Fogel Schneider, Ph.D,
Cynthia Jaynes, Christina Johnson, Martha Sanchez
DDS LIAISON: Pat Hastings
STAFF: Sue Winar
GUESTS: Patsy Hampton, Mary Lou Hickman, Ph.D

I. Introductions

Introductions were made. Cheryl Holden has been assigned as on-site ICC Staff Support and Sue Winar is the new staff person assigned to the PA committee. Barbara Ferreira will continue as Staff Support for all other ICC tasks. Her assignment to other Department duties was discussed. The committee would like to consider ICC recognition awards for Barbara Ferreira and Pat Winget.

II. Agenda Review

The proposed agenda was reviewed and approved with the following changes. The DDS State Report was added and the presentation on Local Foster Care Outreach was moved to the beginning of the agenda.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from November 29, 2001 were approved as presented.

IV. Presentation on Local Foster Care Outreach

Due to interest by other ICC committees, Maureen Wilson from Lanterman Regional Center presented to a large group prior to individual committee meetings. Her presentation covered training and responsibilities for surrogate parents assigned to children in foster care.

V. Report on Mentoring Strategies for New FICC Parents

Hedy reported that she had attended the NECTAS National Meeting held in Washington D.C. during February 2001 and that it was a wonderful networking opportunity on behalf of parents.

Nenita reported that the National ICC Parent Leadership Phone Conference focused on recruitment, preparation, mentoring, and sustaining of ICC parent representatives. The

conference included strategies in mentoring, preparing, and supporting parents in leadership roles. Concerns about recruitment/retention of ICC parents were discussed. See attached for detail. For more information concerning parent representation on State ICC's refer to www.ICCparent.org or contact Richard Robeson or Barbara Popper at 800/493-3338.

The Committee discussed recruitment and retention ideas for parent representation on California's ICC that included a buddy system, utilizing the local FRC's to recruit parents and developing a boilerplate invitation and/or a personal invitation. PAC discussed plans for a parent recruitment activity to take place for the March State ICC to be held at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday morning before the ICC's Committee of the Whole meeting. Hedy shared that she has a parent-to-parent program that might be useful in getting the word out to potential parent representatives. Further discussion is needed to identify someone to welcome new parents and provide ICC information. The FRC/N Conference was suggested as a good opportunity to have ICC recruitment materials available for distribution.

ACTION: Stephanie will research the parameters for parent participation funds through Cal Stat and other local groups/agencies.

ACTION: Stephanie will invite five parents to attend the March ICC and has agreed to assist in providing an orientation.

ACTION: Nenita will draft a recruitment flyer and email to members and the ICC Chair within the next 2 weeks.

ACTION: Pat will research the possibility of having a brief orientation on ICC purpose and structure for potential parent representatives and will check on a room for the meeting.

ACTION: Pat will check on the status of the ICC Orientation Manual and it's availability for the March ICC meeting.

ACTION: Zelna will submit the proposed parent orientation meeting as an action item to the ICC for approval.

VI. Review input on "Tools for Child Find and Public Awareness"

Stephanie requested committee input on a universal referral form she developed, "Reaching Our Health Care Professionals". Stephanie is working on a grant to provide outreach to physicians in the Sacramento area, encouraging them to accept children with special needs as patients. The grant focus will be on finding a medical home for graduates from Sacramento NICUs.

Stephanie will provide the website address she found particularly helpful regarding physician outreach for "Early Childhood Connections". Zelna has a referral form she

would be willing to share. Pat confirmed that the Early Start physician referral brochure is being revised by DDS.

VII. Review Prop 10 Parent Kit & First Step Kit

Dr. Mary Lou Hickman presented New Jersey's First Step Kit, a universal assessment kit to be utilized by physicians in the early identification of autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disabilities. The kit was designed by First Signs, a family oriented group, willing to collaborate on the use of the kit with other states. The kit may be used at a total package or portions of the kit may be used. The First Signs group would require a specific statewide plan before they would agree to collaborative dissemination efforts. Mary Lou requested recommendations from the committee on possible uses for the kit and suggestions for potential collaborative funding partners. The kit will also be reviewed by the Health Systems Committee.

The committee made the following recommendations regarding the kit, including chart and brochures.

- Some of the language could be useful in developing future public awareness materials.
- Many components of the kit are too wordy.
- Early Warning Signs brochure seems intimidating.
- The wording of the wall-chart was good but the wall-chart itself needs to be smaller so that it can be easily displayed. Graphics were seen as appealing.
- The physicians guide is too detailed.
- Questions arose about the availability of a training component and whether data was available regarding the effectiveness of the kit in early identification.

Pat introduced the Kit for New Parents developed by the California Children and Families Commission (Proposition 10). The Commission has agreed to include Early Start public awareness materials in the parent kit. The committee's recommendations included:

- References to infants and toddlers with special needs should be included throughout the kit.
- The Family Introduction to Early Start brochure and the new referral brochure being developed by DDS could be valuable additions to the kit.
- Further discussion is needed regarding the possibility of including a "developmental milestones" wall-chart and baby rattles or bibs imprinted with Early Start information.

VIII. Review Calendar Formats

The committee discussed calendar concepts and agreed to table this project until a later date.

IX. DDS State Report

The Early Start Resources (ESR) distribution report was disseminated. Pat provided an update on public awareness activities. The recommendations made by the PAC committee have been implemented on the Baby Line phone message. The 1999-2000

Annual Report has been printed and will be disseminated in the near future. The Central Directory is in the final phase of production and will be routed for administrative approvals. The Family IFSP brochure continues in the concept development phase. The generic referral brochure is nearing a final draft and should be available for committee review at the March ICC. An Evaluation and Assessment Technical Assistance Handbook has been developed for the upcoming Multidisciplinary Evaluation and Assessment Forum being held in San Diego on February 21, 2002. DDS is developing a new section for the Service Coordinator's Handbook entitled "Health Services". Distribution of the Public Service Announcement is pending administrative approval. The Service Coordinator Institute-Foundation is being held next week in Burbank. The Early Start Proclamation honoring March as "Early Start Month" is awaiting the Governor's approval.

ACTION: Pat will check on the possibility of ESR providing an Early Start resource table at the Twelfth Annual Local Child Care Planning Conference; Leadership, Collaboration & Quality, scheduled for February 5-7, 2001.

ACTION: Updated Early Start Fact Sheets will be shared at the March meeting.

X. Proposed Agenda for March Meeting

- Develop strategies for foster care outreach
- Review PAC activities/accomplishments for 2000/01 Annual Report.
- Review referral brochure content
- Review "Tools for Child Find & Public Awareness"
- Review listing of recipient listing for ICC Certificates of Appreciation
- Share samples of local Public Awareness efforts
- State Agency reports

XI. Adjourn